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BENNETT'S BERRY CATALOG



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STRAWBERRIES

All the Fine, Sweet, Juicy Berries
You and Your Family Can Eat All Season

Only \$1.50

See page six

ANNUAL CATALOG
ROBERT A. BENNETT
Grandview, Indiana



GREETING:

Dear Neighbor:

This is our annual message to you. We hope you will read it. We might have published a beautiful, flowery, high-colroed catalog, but pictures and engravings cost a lot of money. To pay for them we would have to charge more for our plants. W admit our catalog isn't fine, but our plants are equal to any on the market, and our prices are much lower than you will find elsewhere. Kindly bear this in mind as you read our little booklet.

Yours for Better Berries.

Robert A. Bennett.

WILL YOU PROFIT BY OUR EXPERIENCE

For seventeen years we have been growing Berries and Berry Plants. We have tested out hundreds of different varieties of berries and have rejected and have thrown away all but a few varieties which have been proven by actual test. When you buy BENNETT plants, you get the benefit of our many year's experience. You can't go wrong with BENNETT plants.

READ WHAT OTHER FOLKS THINK
ABOUT BENNETT'S BERRIES

From 500 Bennett strawberry plants we picked fifty gallons of the largest, best flavored berries that ever grew. W. M. Maas
Route 4, Rockport, Ind.

We set out over 18,000 Bennett strawberry plants on our farm. The plants were fine and they grew off nicely. W. H. Squier,
Route 1, Rockport, Ind.

Every one of my strawberry plants grew. I cannot say too much in praise of Bennett's strawberries. Jennie Walker, Gentryville, Ind.

I tried for years to grow strawberries but did not succeed until I purchased plants from Robert A. Bennett. Effie Kirk, Grandview, Ind.

I have been in the patch of strawberry plants offered for sale by Robert A. Bennett, and find them to be healthy, strong, well-rooted plants that should give satisfaction when planted in the field.

H. D. Jackson,
County Agricultural Agent.

I set 400 Bennett strawberry plants from which I sold fifty gallons, at \$1.00 per gallon, and we used about twenty-five gallons. Harvey S. Mills, Route 4, Rockport, Ind.

PLAY SAFE, SET BENNETT PLANTS

PLAY SAFE -- SET BENNETT PLANTS

This Happened Near Here Some Time Ago

John Doe met Bill Smith. "We've decided to set a patch of strawberries this year, Bill," said John. "We are to," said Bill. "My wife says she's tired of doing without fruit, or paying \$1.00 a gallon for strawberries. We believe it will be cheaper to grow our own berries.

John had a neighbor, who told him to come over and get all the strawberry plants he wanted; said he would plow them up anyway. This sounded good to John. So he went and got about a thousand plants. The plants did not look very good, but John figured that since they didn't cost him a cent he couldn't lose anything anyway. He set them out, but for some reason about two-thirds of them died. He cultivated the remaining plants the rest of the season, then waited for his berries. When June came, John picked about a gallon and a half of little, sour, knotty things, which he called strawberries. He told his wife they wouldn't try to raise any more strawberries, as he thought they wouldn't grow on his farm.

Bill Smith and his wife, Mary, had heard of Bennett's strawberries. They decided to take a chance and buy 500 Bennett plants. Of course, they cost a little money, but when the plants arrived, they were so big and fresh, and the roots were so long that Bill was glad already that he had bought Bennett's plants. He set them out at once and more than 95 per cent of them lived and grew. He cultivated them just as John Doe had, and then he waited for HIS berries. AND SUCH BERRIES! John and Mary both declared that they never in their lives saw such loads of fine berries. John said it was the first time in his life that he ever had all the strawberries he could eat, and Mary could talk of nothing but her delicious strawberry preserves. They both declared that if they ever need any more berry plants, they certainly knew how to get them.

PUZZLE: Whose plants were the cheapest?

PLAY SAFE, SET BENNETT PLANTS

BENNETT'S SENATOR DUNLAP STRAWBERRY

In seventeen years of search for a perfect strawberry, we have found the Senator Dunlap to be nearer this ideal than any other variety. It is sometimes called the Little Giant, for, although the plant is small, it bears enormous loads of fine, delicious fruit. Berries are large, sweet, dark red to the center, and have no core. Fine for shipping, canning or table use. This variety is recommended above all others by Purdue University.

By careful selection and proper cultural methods, we have developed a strain of Dunlap hard to beat. Because of its wonderful fruiting powers, we sometimes call it the King Dunlap. Don't fail to order generously of this splendid variety.

Prices delivered: 100 plants, 90 cents; 500 plants, \$3.00; 1000 plants \$6.00.

A TIP TO THE WISE

MR. FARMER: What crops are you going to grow this season? Are you tired of working for a little of nothing, growing corn, potatoes, tomatoes, etc.? Why not grow an acre of strawberries and make some easy money? Here are some of the reasons why strawberries will pay you well:

- 1 Strawberries pay well, and will bring you more clear profit than any crop you can grow. Net returns of \$750 per acre and up are not uncommon.
- 2 Strawberries are not difficult to grow.
- 3 Strawberries will thrive on any soil that will produce a fair crop of corn or potatoes.
- 4 Strawberries bring quick returns, a big crop being harvested a year from the time plants are set out.
- 5 Strawberries require no special fertilizing, spraying, or petting of any kind to get a good crop.
- 6 Strawberries are not hard on land, usually leaving it more fertile than before.
- 7 Strawberries always find a ready market at good prices, owing to the extreme scarcity of other fruits.

There are many reasons why you should grow an acre of strawberries, therefore,

MAKE BIG PROFITS—GROW AN ACRE OF STRAWBERRIES

OTHER VARIETIES OF STRAWBERRIES

We grow and recommend the following varieties of strawberries:

EARLY VARIETIES:

Monitor—The best table variety. Also fine for home market.
Charles I—Very early; fruit of good quality and size.

MEDIUM SEASON VARIETIES:

Dr. Burrell—The million dollar strawberry. Similar to the Dunlap.

Gibson—One of the best varieties. Large, juicy and dark red.

EXTRA LATE VARIETIES:

Grandy—A fine old variety. Very large and firm.

Aroma—Large, sweet, firm. A money maker.

Sample—A universal favorite. Beautiful fruit of good quality.

PROGRESSIVE EVERBEARING:

The best of all the everbearers. Price: 100 plants \$2.00 (delivered.)

PRICES ON ALL STRAWBERRIES EXCEPT PROGRESSIVE:

100 plants 90 cents; 500 plants \$3.00; 1000 plants \$6.00.

Delivered by Parcel Post to you, all charges paid by us.

OTHER NURSERY STOCK

EARLY HARVEST BLACKBERRY—While this berry rusts some, and occasionally slightly winter kills, we consider it the best of all blackberries for this section. 25 plants \$1.00, 100 plants \$4.00. (Delivered.)

CUMBERLAND BLACK RASBERRY—Best of all black caps. Large, hardy and fine. 25 plants \$1.00; 100 plants \$4.00 (Delivered)

HOUGHTON GOOSEBERRY—The best table variety. Fine plants, each 25 cents; 6 for \$1.00 (Delivered)

GRAPE—Concord (blue) and Ives (black)—Fine large stocky plants. Each 25 cents; 6 for \$1.00 (Delivered)

SWEET POTATO PLANTS—It is much cheaper to buy our fine plants than to make a hot bed. We pay all postage and guarantee safe arrival.

Nancy Hall:	200 plants \$1.00,	1000 plants \$4.00
Red Jersey:	250 plants \$1.00,	1000 plants \$3.25
100 Nancy Hall and 100 Red Jersey plants, \$1.00, Delivered.		
Sweet Potato plants ready May 1 st, to July 1 st.		

BENNETT'S ACRE STRAWBERRY OFFERS

(The lowest prices ever made on quality plants.)

BENNETT'S ACRE OFFER NO. 1

6000 fine Senator Dunlap plants (enough for one acre), only \$25.00 (usual price \$45.00, you save \$20.00).

BENNETT'S ACRE OFFER NO. 2

1500 Monitor, Extra Early,
3000 Senator Dunlap, Medium Season,
1500 Gandy, Extra Late,
6000 fine plants, only \$30.00 (usual price \$50, you save \$20).

We do not pay transportation charges on these acre offers. We recommend that our customers order them shipped by express.

THESE ACRE OFFERS WILL MAKE YOU MONEY

OUR BIGGEST GARDEN VALUE

All the fine strawberry plants you and your family can eat in a whole season for only one dollar and fifty cents.

BENNETT'S GARDEN OFFER NUMBER A.

200 Senator Dunlap strawberry plants delivered to you, all postal charges paid, only \$1.50 (usual price \$2.50, you save \$1.00).

We guarantee this offer of plants to furnish you, if properly cared for, enough fine fruit all season for a small family. (For larger families see Bennett's Garden Offer, Number B.)

BENNETT'S GARDEN OFFER NUMBER B.

500 Senator Dunlap strawberry plants delivered to you, all postal charges paid, only \$3.00 (usual price \$5.00, you save \$2.00).

We guarantee this offer of plants to furnish you, if properly cared for, enough fine fruit all season for a large family.

BENNETT'S GARDEN OFFER NUMBER C.

200 early, medium and late varieties strawberry plants, delivered to you all charges prepaid, only \$1.75.

BENNETT'S GARDEN OFFER NUMBER D.

500 early, medium and late varieties strawberry plants, delivered to you all charges prepaid, only \$3.50.

PLAY SAFE, SET BENNETT PLANTS

HOW TO GROW BIG CROPS OF STRAWBERRIES

SOIL. Any soil that is well drained and will produce a good crop of corn, should be excellent for strawberries. Never use clover sod or other sod soil for berries. Follow some cultivated crop, such as potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, corn, etc., with strawberries, if possible.

FERTILIZER. The best fertilizer for strawberries is well-rotted stable manure, thoroughly worked into the soil at harrowing time.

PREPARING THE SOIL. Plow the ground deep and work thoroughly until it is well pulverized and level. Plow as early as possible in the spring and prepare your ground well and you will have little trouble with weeds.

SETTING THE PLANTS. For open cultivation, mark off the rows three and one-half feet apart, and set plants two feet part in the row. This will require about 6,000 plants per acre. For garden culture set plants two and one-half feet by one and one-half feet. The earlier one can set his plants in the spring the better. For setting plants, use a common garden spade, dibble, brickmason's trowel, or your hand to make the hole, spreading the roots out as much as possible, setting the crown of the plant level with the ground, and pack the soil firmly about the roots and plant.

CULTIVATION. Practice shallow cultivation often enough to keep down weeds, and to keep soil from packing. The 14 tooth cultivator (scratcher) is an excellent tool for this purpose. Some work with the hoe may be necessary.

PINCHING OFF BLOSSOMS. Pinch off blossoms from all spring-set plants (except Everbearers) the first season. Do not let them ripen fruit the first season, as this weakens the plants and may kill them. Your crop of berries the following year will far more than pay you for your trouble.

Keep blossoms pinched off of the Progressive Everbearing plants until July first or August first; then let them bear their loads of delicious fruit until freezing weather comes.

MULCHING. After the first hard freeze (usually about Thanksgiving) cover the plants lightly with wheat straw or some similar mulch that is free from weed seeds. When spring growth starts, use a pitch fork and rake part of the straw from off the rows into the milds, leaving it there until fruiting season. We consider mulching very important, it protects the plants from freezing and thawing, conserves the moisture and fertility of the soil, keeps down weeds, and keeps the fruit bright and clean.

OTHER POINTS ON BERRY CULTURE. It is impossible for us to give anything but the bare details of strawberry growing here. If you have individual problems, and you should like for us to assist you in solving them, write us and we will be glad to help you if we can. We have found some bulletins very helpful. These are free and we recommend the following:

Bulletin No. 200, Vol. XX, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

Strawberry Culture, Bulletin 1023. United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

THE BENNETT GUARANTEE

1 We guarantee our plants to be fresh dug, carefully packed, and delivered to you in first class condition.

2 We guarantee more than 95 per cent of our plants to live and grow if properly cared for.

3 We guarantee our plants to produce as much, or more, fruit as will be produced by plants purchased elsewhere, if grown under like conditions.

4 We guarantee our plants to be true to name.

5 Certificate of state inspector attached to every package of plants shows same to be free from disease and insect pests.

HOW TO ORDER

ORDER EARLY. Order your plants as soon as possible. Don't wait until setting time, for you may then be unable to get just what you want. If possible, order your plants as soon as you receive this catalog. Don't wait for a rainy season for setting plants. Every Bennett plant will grow when properly set in April or May.

TIME FOR SETTING. April is the best month for setting strawberries, altho good results are obtained sometimes until the last of May. The earlier set the better.

HOW TO REMIT. Remit by check, money order, draft, or registered letter. We do not ship plants C. O. D.

HOW TO SHIP. We recommend that shipments of 1,000 plants or less, be sent by Parcel Post, larger orders to go by express.

WE PAY POSTAGE. On all shipments of plants, except acre lots of strawberry plants, we pay all postage. Remember this when you compare our prices with others.

SUBSTITUTION. In case we are sold out of the variety you order, may we substitute some equally good kind? Please answer this question, or, allow us to substitute, if necessary.

ORDER BLANK. USE attached order blank, and return envelope when ordering.

OUR HONESTY. We refer you to the Grandview Bank, or the Old Rockport Bank, Rockport, Ind.

BENNETT

Berry Plants Bear
Bountiful Crops of
Fine Berries



What 100 Plants Produced

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In April I bought 100 Bennett's Senator Dunlap strawberry plants. I cared for them according to instructions,

the next season we picked 25½ gallons of the finest strawberries you ever saw. The next season we picked 52 gallons from 150 plants. We kept careful record of every picking so that no mistake could have been made. My only purpose in writing this is to prove to doubtful people what may actually be done with Bennett plants.

Signed, W. B. SMITH, Grandview.

H. O. Stuteville, Notary Public.

My commission expires January 30, 1925.

To

Postoffice

MONITOR PRESS, GRANDVIEW